

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

September 12, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District, #48, Maricopa County, was called to order at 5:03 PM, at the Scottsdale Unified School District Coronado High School, 7501 E. Virginia Avenue, Scottsdale, Arizona.

Board Members in attendance were Barbara Perleberg, President; Pam Kirby, Vice President; Allyson Beckham; Kim Hartmann; and Sandy Kravetz. Superintendent Dr. A. Denise Birdwell was also present. A quorum was present. President Perleberg called upon Mrs. Kravetz to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Perleberg welcomed approximately 100 visitors.

Mrs. Perleberg noted that Consent Agenda Item VII. L. Approval of Renewal of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) for Lobbyist Services was pulled from the Agenda and tabled.

Mrs. Kirby moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Mrs. Hartmann seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Students and Staff Recognitions and Celebrations

Dr. Milissa Sackos, Executive Director Support Services, recognized SUSD's partnership with the HonorHealth system and its Research Institute. Dr. Sackos introduced Dr. Mark Slater, Vice President of Research and Chief Executive of HonorHealth's Research Institute, and Alesia Martin, Chairman of the Scottsdale Unified School District Foundation (SUSDF). Two years ago, with the support of SUSDF, the District began a project to connect Saguaro HS teachers delivering science instruction to SUSD students with top local research facilities. This past summer, the initiative widened its professional development reach to teachers in each of the District's five high schools. Dr. Sackos introduced this year's participants:

- Clifford Nafrada from Arcadia
- Julie Villela from Coronado
- Anne Milligan from Saguaro
- Marcy Cameron from Saguaro
- Susan Lindberg from Saguaro
- Ryan Hill from Desert Mountain
- Lucus Strohmeyer from Desert Mountain
- Erika Mills from Chaparral
- Connie Davis from Chaparral
- David Lowenstein from Arcadia

Dr. Sackos thanked HonorHealth and the SUSD Foundation, as well as the Farley Family Foundation, for their commitment and support.

Dr. Cecilia Johnson, Assistant Superintendent Educational Leadership, recognized the following:

- Bioscience students and teacher Eric Bodznick, Arcadia High School. The students took, and passed, the industry national certification test to become Biotechnician Assistants. The students are:
  - Sasan Zohreh
  - Dallas Green
  - Race Tumisto-Bell
- Safed House, a Scottsdale-based nonprofit organization that provides a welcoming place for refugees and immigrants to share their stories, sponsored its first annual essay contest this year. Dr. Johnson introduced Coronado High School Principal Chris Gilmore, English Language Development teacher Gary Garcia, and Susan Assadi, executive director of Safed House. Coronado HS junior Angel Maravel was an essay contest honoree. Also, first place winner Baraa Abdelghane is a Mohave Middle School student. Reyna He, 2017 Saguaro HS graduate, and Militsa Korizma, Chaparral HS, received honorable recognition.

Amendment to Consent  
Agenda

Motion #8  
Approval of Agenda as  
Amended

Students and Staff  
Recognition and  
Celebrations

- Taylor Dixon, recent Coronado alumnus and member of the Navajo Nation Tribe, was recognized for having officially graduated from Coronado on July 25, nearly a year ahead of his cohort class.

Public Comment

Julie Cieniawski requested the Governing Board and Superintendent participate in mediation talks with the Scottsdale Education Association (SEA).

Becky Williams spoke in support of reinstating the Teachers Employment Agreement (TEA).

Bonnie Bezon spoke in regard to a recent training video shared with teachers that she felt was offensive, asking for an apology from the Governing Board to teachers for having shown this video. She also spoke in support of reinstating the TEA.

Bert teVelde asked the Governing Board to work in collaboration with the teachers and find a way back to the negotiation table. He also asked why the Board is not asking administration the tough questions, as it has in the past.

Mike Peabody, new President of the Scottsdale Parent Council, spoke in support of reinstating the TEA.

Heather Robinson spoke in support of reinstating the TEA.

Superintendent's Comments

- Dr. Birdwell recognized Dennis Roehler, Director of Facilities, and his entire department for the work they have done, and continue to do, taking care of SUSD schools and offices, as well as preparing school sites for ongoing Bond projects.
- Thanked the SUSD Foundation for its ongoing support and for the annual Quest for the Best Gala held September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Phoenician Resort. The Gala honors SUSD teachers, students and administrators, and recognizes outstanding SUSD alumni.
- Also on September 9<sup>th</sup>, the middle schools' Fall Sports Festival was held. Athletes from middle and K-8 schools competed. Dr. Birdwell thanked Nathan Slater, District Athletic Director, and Barb Collinge for their work in organizing the Festival.
- Congratulated the Chaparral HS theater group on their successful performance in the Edinburgh, Scotland Fringe Festival.
- Congratulated 13 SUSD HS seniors on being named Semifinalists in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Navajo Elementary School and Mohave Middle School are finalists in the county's Trip Reduction Program "Most Creative Bulletin Board" competition.
- Introduced the new Interim Principal at Kiva Elementary School, Jessica Johnston.

Consent Agenda

- A. Acceptance of Gifts – \$68,048.46
- B. Accounts Payable Vouchers FY17 August 9, 2017 through August 25, 2017
- C. Accounts Payable Vouchers FY18 August 7, 2017 through August 30, 2017
- D. Payroll Vouchers July 27, 2017 through August 24, 2017
- E. Personnel Actions – 08/03/2017 through 08/28/2017
- F. Approval of Minutes of August 10, 2017 Special Board Meeting
- G. Approval of Minutes of August 15, 2017 Regular Governing Board Meeting
- H. Approval of Minutes of August 28, 2017 Special Board Meeting/Board Training
- I. Action of Hearing Officer's Recommendation
- J. Overnight, Out-of-State, Foreign Trips
- K. Approval of Teacher Professional Development Days for School Year Calendars for 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21
- L. Approval of Renewal of IGA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) for Lobbyist Services - **TABLED**
- M. Approval of Renewal of IGA with Maricopa County Department of Public Health for Tobacco Use Prevention Program for the 2017-2018 School Year
- N. Approve the Increase of Multiple Commodities and Services through Mohave Educational Services Cooperative (Mohave) Contracts
- O. Approve the Renewal of Contract

Public Comment

Superintendent's  
Comments

Consent Agenda

•Item VII. L. – Renewal  
of IGA w/CUSD TABLED

Motion #9

Mrs. Hartmann moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Mrs. Beckham seconded the motion.

Approval of Consent Agenda as Amended

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dr. Birdwell asked that Consent Agenda Item VII. L. Approval of Renewal of IGA Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Chandler Unified School District (CUSD) for Lobbyist Services be tabled. The information provided for this item was incorrect.

Information/Discussion

Information/Discussion

Dr. Anna McCauley, Assistant Superintendent Accountability and Instruction, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. A. Discussion of AzMERIT and Academic Performance. A PowerPoint was shown, reviewing comparable information for English Language Arts and Math from last spring’s District results for high, medium and low social economic status. Discussion ensued regarding how SUSD compares to peer public school districts, as well as to local charter schools. Dr. Birdwell continued the presentation with a slide presentation reviewing how SUSD is creating clarity using the AzMERIT data by developing instructional leaders and providing professional development that will encourage growth at all levels of leadership. All SUSD schools will have goals that are aligned to the District goals, as well as to teacher and student learning goals. Each school will develop a Continuous Improvement Process (CIP) that will use the AzMERIT data to set its SMART (specific, measureable, attainable, relevant and time-bound) goals. The Governing Board continued its discussion regarding data collection and goal setting. Dr. Birdwell thanked the principals and instructional leaders for the work that they do and stated she will do everything she can to support SUSD teachers.

•AzMERIT and Academic Performance

Laura Smith, CFO, presented Information/Discussion Item VIII. B. Update on 2016 Override and Bond Projects. Ms. Smith reviewed the 2016 Bond budget balances, as well as current 2016 Override balances. Although it is not required by statute, the District will begin Bond Committee meetings the end of this month. The Board discussed the new process being used to ensure that textbooks that have been purchased get to the schools and that teachers are aware that the textbooks have been received. All books are barcoded and entered into the system with the Destiny program. Dr. Birdwell noted that this is a hard-working Board which takes its role seriously and helps administration communicate to the public.

•Update on 2016 Override and Bond Projects

Mrs. Kirby addressed a Public Comment made earlier concerning the Board’s not asking tough questions as it used to. She stated that the difference is Board Members are able to telephone anyone in administration and get the answers they need prior to a Governing Board meeting so that everyone is on the same page.

Board Member Response to Public Comment

Future Items

Mrs. Hartmann would like to explore a self-assessment of the Governing Board.

Future Items

Mrs. Perleberg would like administration to develop a format in conjunction with principals to discuss site morale and issues the Governing Board hears about.

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, October 5, 2017 – 3:00 PM – Study Session  
Tuesday, October 17, 2017 – 5:00 PM – Regular Governing Board Meeting

Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board Reports

Mrs. Kirby reported she had an opportunity to work with Dr. McCauley at Tonalea K-8 and experience a “lightening round” of questions and concerns that she found fascinating.

Governing Board Reports

Mrs. Hartmann reported:

- A new partnership with Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce that will benefit Business United for Scottsdale Schools (BUSS). A travel program with American Express that is offered to all Chamber members will donate 20% of all revenue generated to BUSS.
- BUSS is also working on a November business community breakfast at Skysong. Details to follow.

- Attended the Arizona School Boards Association Law Conference with Board Member Allyson Beckham on September 7-8 and represented SUSD at the Legislative Delegate Assembly.
- Attended the Cheyenne groundbreaking ceremony on September 6.
- Attended the SUSD Foundation Gala on September 9 and thanked the Foundation for its support of the District.

Mrs. Beckham reported:

- Attended the ASBA Law Conference and had the pleasure of hearing two authors speak on adolescent behaviors. Also attended break-out sessions at the Conference and learned what other districts throughout the state are doing.
- Attended the SUSD Foundation Gala, an incredible event.

At 7:00 PM, Mrs. Kirby moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Beckham seconded the motion.

The motion was approved with a vote of 5 – 0.

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017

**The Governing Board of the Scottsdale Unified School District #48**

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Barbara Perleberg, President

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Pam Kirby, Vice President

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Allyson Beckham

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Kim Hartmann

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Sandy Kravetz

Motion #10  
Adjournment

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